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Contact: Lynn Duerod 313-226-4680

Lynn.M.Duerod@lre02.usace.army.mil

www.lre.usace.army.mil

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Summer maintenance and lock dewatering in progress

Detroit — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District is conducting an inspection and maintenance of the MacArthur Lock at the Soo Locks in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich,

During the inspection and maintenance, the lock will be dewatered, allowing a unique opportunity for visitors to the Soo Locks to view the lock's structure, which is normally submersed.

The Corps Lock inspection team will begin the five-year inspection on Wednesday to be completed by Thursday. Barring any major problems that need immediate repair, refilling of the MacArthur lock will occur on Friday.

This process is typically done during the winter shut down; however, maintenance crews were furloughed this past winter due to budget constraints.

The dewatering, maintenance and inspection was preceded by extensive dialog and coordination with the Lake Carriers Association and other important stakeholders.